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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

TAN, ALVIN H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2173

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07/10/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/825,560	Applicant(s) AREND ET AL.	
	Examiner Alvin H. Tan	Art Unit 2173	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 April 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 April 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>7/18/06</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Remarks

1. Claims 1-21 have been examined and rejected. This is the first Office action on the merits.

Specification

2. The specification is objected to because it does not list application numbers for the related applications cited on *[page 2, paragraph 2]* of the specification.

Applicant is hereby required to amend the specification to include the actual US application numbers (authority under 37 CFR 1.56)(see MPEP 2001.06(b) [R-2]).

3. The listing of references in the specification is not a proper information disclosure statement. 37 CFR 1.98(b) requires a list of all patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office, and MPEP § 609.04(a) states, "the list may not be incorporated into the specification but must be submitted in a separate paper." Therefore, unless the references have been cited by the examiner on form PTO-892, they have not been considered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

- a. Claim 1 recites the limitation "the user" in *[lines 1-2]* of the claim. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.
- b. Claims 1, 11, and 21 recite the limitation "the user's input" in *[line 5]* of claims 1 and 11 and *[line 4]* of claim 21. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.
- c. Claims 1 and 21 recite the limitation "the available data objects" in *[lines 6-7]* of claim 1 and *[lines 5-6]* of claim 21. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.
- d. Claims 2 and 12 recite the limitation "the user's selection" in *[line 2]* of the claims. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.
- e. Claims 5 and 15 recite the limitation "the related activities" in *[line 1]* of the claims. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.
- f. Claim 11 recites the limitation "the data objects" in *[line 6]* of the claim.
There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

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A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

7. Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 11, 12, 14-17, and 21 have been rejected under 35

U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Dazey et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,715,415), herein after Dazey.

Claims 1, 2, 4-7 (User Interface)

Claims 11, 12, 14-17 (Method)

Claim 21 (Computer Readable Medium)

7-1. Regarding claims 1, 11, and 21, Dazey teaches the claim comprising a first pane for displaying instructions to a user regarding the task, by disclosing a technique for offering help content to a computer user who operates a computer application in a graphical user interface windowing environment [*column 2, lines 11-13*]. Help content is provided in a help pane 70 [*figure 4*] that is part of the graphical window [*column 4, lines 46-61*].

Dazey teaches a second pane for displaying a content form and receiving a user's input into the content form, wherein the content form displays only a subset of available data objects relating to the task, by disclosing a workspace 50 [*figure 4*] which contains content such as a publication, word processing document, spreadsheet workbook, or database page [*column 4, lines 8-15*].

Dazey teaches a third pane for displaying actions related to the task, by disclosing a side toolbar 60 *[figure 4]* which contains multiple control buttons specific to the application *[column 4, lines 33-38]*.

7-2. Regarding claims 2 and 12, Dazey teaches the claim further comprising a fourth pane for displaying one or more core functions and receiving a user's selection of core functions, by disclosing a pane containing control buttons 56 which assist the user in performing routine tasks on the publication *[column 4, lines 16-23]*.

7-3. Regarding claims 4 and 14, Dazey teaches the claim wherein the content form of the second pane is pre-filled upon display of the content form and prior to the user entering any data, by disclosing an open file control button *[column 4, lines 16-23]*.

7-4. Regarding claims 5-7 and 15-17, Dazey teaches the claim wherein related activities in the third pane are secondary activities that are related to the task, wherein the third pane is also for receiving user selection of one of the secondary activities, and wherein the user interface launches the secondary activity received from the user, by disclosing that the multiple control buttons are specific to the application *[column 4, lines 33-38]*.

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8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 3 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dazey et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,715,415) and Examiner's statement of Official notice.

Claim 3 (User Interface)

Claim 13 (Method)

9-1. Regarding claims 3 and 13, Dazey teaches the invention substantially as claimed. See section 7-1. Although Dazey teaches displaying a word processing document, a spreadsheet document, a spreadsheet workbook, or a database page *[column 4, lines 11-15]*, Dazey does not expressly teach the claim wherein the second pane displays only a read-only list of data. However, Examiner takes Official notice that it is common to open read-only files. This allows users to read files while preventing changes or modification to them. Since Dazey teaches opening a variety of applications, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to open a read-only file since Examiner takes Official notice that opening read-only files is common. This would allow users to read files while preventing changes or modification to them.

10. Claims 8-10 and 18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dazey et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,715,415) and Microsoft Excel 2000 (Copyright 1999) as shown by Microsoft Excel 2000 Screenshots, herein after Excel.

Claims 8-10 (User Interface)

Claims 18-20 (Method)

10-1. Regarding claims 8-10 and 18-20, Dazey teaches the invention substantially as claimed. See section 7-4. Although Dazey teaches that the multiple control buttons are specific to the application [*column 4, lines 33-38*] and that the applications may include a word processing document, a spreadsheet document, a spreadsheet workbook, or a database page [*column 4, lines 11-15*], Dazey does not expressly teach the claim wherein the secondary activities include links to structured data, unstructured data, and communication tools. Excel teaches a web tool bar [*figures 1, 2*] that allows users to link to web pages including structured data [*figure 3*], unstructured data [*figure 4*], and communication tools [*figure 5*]. Links can be provided in the form of buttons from the favorites menu as shown [*figure 6*]. This allows users to conveniently access data that may be useful for the application. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include links to structured data, unstructured data, and communication tools, as taught by Dazey. This would allow users to conveniently access data that may be useful to the application.

Conclusion

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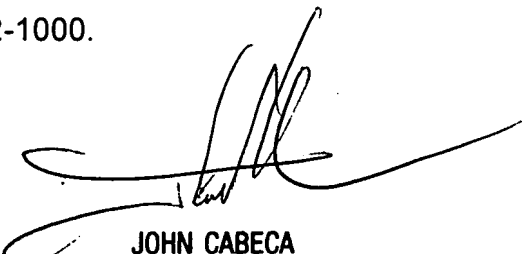
11. The prior art made of record on attached form PTO-892 and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is required under 37 C.F.R § 111(c) to consider these references fully when responding to this action. The documents cited therein teach similar systems for a quick activity window.

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alvin H. Tan whose telephone number is 571-272-8595. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 10:00-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on 571-272-4048. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

AHT
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